

TramForward

Campaigning for Light Rail

PRESS RELEASE FROM *TramForward*

18 December 2011

TramForward welcomes approval of Nottingham tram extension

TramLink congratulates the City and people of Nottingham on the final Government funding approval for the constructions of its two new tram lines, which will extend the tram system to Chilwell via Beeston and Clifton via Wilford.

The Government provides approximately 66% of the estimated £570m cost with the remaining 34% coming from Nottingham City Council, mainly through the Workplace Parking Levy. The contract to build the lines has been awarded to Tramlink Nottingham, which will also take over the operation of the existing line to Hucknall.

The construction of Lines Two and Three will take place concurrently. Advanced works including utility diversions will start in January / February with the main tramway construction starting in March 2012. Once the tracks are laid and the overhead cables installed, there will be a period of several months of test running with the new lines expected to open to the public by late 2014.

In announcing the Department for Transport decision, Transport Minister Norman Baker said: "I am delighted that we are able to finally approve funding so that construction of Phase Two of the tram system can begin." "Line One of the Nottingham tram has proved to be a great success in encouraging people onto public transport. These extensions provide the opportunity to build on that success, and give people in the south of Nottingham quicker, more convenient access to the city centre as well as providing an alternative means of accessing the city centre for people commuting by car."

NOTES FOR EDITORS

1. *TramForward* is the campaigning arm of the Light Rail Transit Association.
2. The Light Rail Transit Association is the world's leading organisation campaigning for better public transport through light rail, tramway and metro systems in our towns and cities for 70 years. It also supports the revitalisation of suburban and rural transport through the application of light rail.
3. The LRTA acts through its network of local branches, which campaign for better transport in their localities.
4. Membership of the LRTA costs just over 12p a day. To join, visit www.lrta.org or write to the Membership Secretary, LRTA, 38 Wolsley Road, Sale, Greater Manchester, M33 7AU. Members of the LRTA receive the monthly magazine *Tramways & Urban Transit* - written and read by experts in the field - and gain other benefits including discounts on videos and books, tours of transport systems and cut-price admission to selected transport sites.
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